



State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

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June 2, 1994

TO: Minerals File

FROM: Tony Gallegos, Reclamation Engineer *aa*

RE: Meeting Documentation, Native Asphalt Company, Cameron #1 Mine, S/047/036, Uintah County, Utah

Date of Meeting: June 2, 1994
Time of Meeting: 1400 - 1525
Location: DOGM offices, 3 Triad
Participants: Carl Minden, Native Asphalt Company; Wayne Hedberg, Tony Gallegos, DOGM

Purpose of Meeting: To discuss the current permitting concerns at the mine site and the current company status.

Mr. Minden is representing the now defunct Native Asphalt Company. The principal shareholder in the company, Sam Arnst, recently passed away. The Arnst family is unsure if they wish to proceed with the company at this point in time. Mark Lindsey is no longer involved with the operations. Mr. Minden is attempting to understand the Division's permitting concerns with the site and also understand the issues involved with permitting the site as a large mining operation. He is researching the issues to present the mine site to prospective operators. He is aware of three main concerns by the Division : 1) reclamation of the old SOHIO/BP/Native Asphalt exploration sites; 2) diversion of the water currently being degraded by passing through the pit; and 3) exceeding the five acre disturbance for a small mining operation.

Mr. Minden asked for a description of the Division's hole plugging requirements. We discussed the different requirements for holes which are dry and holes which encounter water. I suggested Mr. Minden contact D.J. Beaupeurt-Schantz and/or Pete Sokolosky at the Vernal BLM offices regarding the BLM requirements for reclamation of sites on BLM lands.



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The simplest way to deal with the water degradation is to prevent the water from running through or ponding in the pits. Mr. Minden explained that having the water run through the pit area is undesirable from a mining point of view. The existing diversion using a four inch PVC pipe is not working. A new diversion system will need to be implemented and maintained.

A letter from Native Asphalt Company September 11, 1993, informed the Division that a survey performed by Compliance Engineering in 1992, revealed the total site disturbance exceeded five acres. It is uncertain at this point if reclaiming the area which was scalped for gravel would bring the site back under five acres. We informed Mr. Minden that reclaiming disturbed areas to bring the site back to five acres of disturbance is something the Division would be willing to negotiate. The Division would need to see a reclamation proposal in order to make a decision. Reclamation of the scalped gravel area would consist of ripping along the contour or some other surface treatment to create a rough surface, and seeding. The preferred time of reclamation is in the fall.

We explained the general permitting process for a large mining operation to Mr. Minden. The operator would submit a Large Mining Operation Notice of Intention (LMO-NOI) to the Division for review. The Division's initial review of the submission would probably take 45 days or more. The operator would then need to provide a response to the Division's review comments. If there are no further permitting concerns after receiving the operators response, the Division can grant tentative approval of the LMO-NOI. After the Division grants its tentative approval, the mine operator will need to post a reclamation surety. The reclamation surety is based upon performing the reclamation activities identified in the reclamation plan portion of the LMO-NOI. The surety amount is based on third party costs and also includes five years of escalation. The average surety amounts currently held by the Division range from \$2,000 to \$3,500 per acre.

We asked Mr. Minden how long it would be before he could provide the Division with some new information. He indicated it would be at least three months from now. We provided Mr. Minden with a copy of the Minerals Rules, a LMO-NOI form, and a listing of other permits required to mine in Utah. In addition, we would send Mr. Minden a copy of the original Small Mining Operations Notice of Intention and a copy of our meeting documentation memo. He can be reached by mail as: Carl Minden; 314 Federal Heights Circle; Salt Lake City, Utah 84103. His phone number is (801) 328-1862.

jb

cc: Carl Minden, Native Asphalt Co. *w/ original SMO NOI*

D.J. Beaupert-Schantz, Vernal District, BLM

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